




## MEMORANDUM

TO: Consolidated Agency CIO's

FROM: Kevin Rademacher, Chief Technology Officer   
CMS Bureau of Communication and Computer Services (BCCS)

DATE: April 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Server Virtualization Project

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Over the past months you have heard and read that BCCS is in the process of virtualizing most of the CMS-managed Intel-based servers using blade servers and VMware. Some of the benefits related to this project include new hardware platform to replace aging equipment, higher up-time due to built in high-availability/failover capabilities of the VMware environment, and lower overall cost to our customers.

We have performed the initial analysis and have identified approximately 350 servers that would most benefit virtualization. These servers were targeted for Phase I of the project which will take place over the next four months. We are currently in the process of migrating legacy CMS and Illinois.gov servers. After we complete CMS VMware server migrations, we will be moving to servers hosting agency applications.

As part of the change process, agencies will be notified at least three weeks prior to a server being virtualized. The CMS infrastructure staff will work with each agency to identify any application dependencies, planned downtime and other pertinent information related to the server. We expect the transition to have minimal impact on your users or applications, but post-conversion testing will need to be completed to ensure a smooth transition. Attached is our tentative server conversion schedule.

This project is a key part in planning the future, and we look forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please contact Don Warren at (217) 557-0287 or myself at 217-725-7169. Thank you.